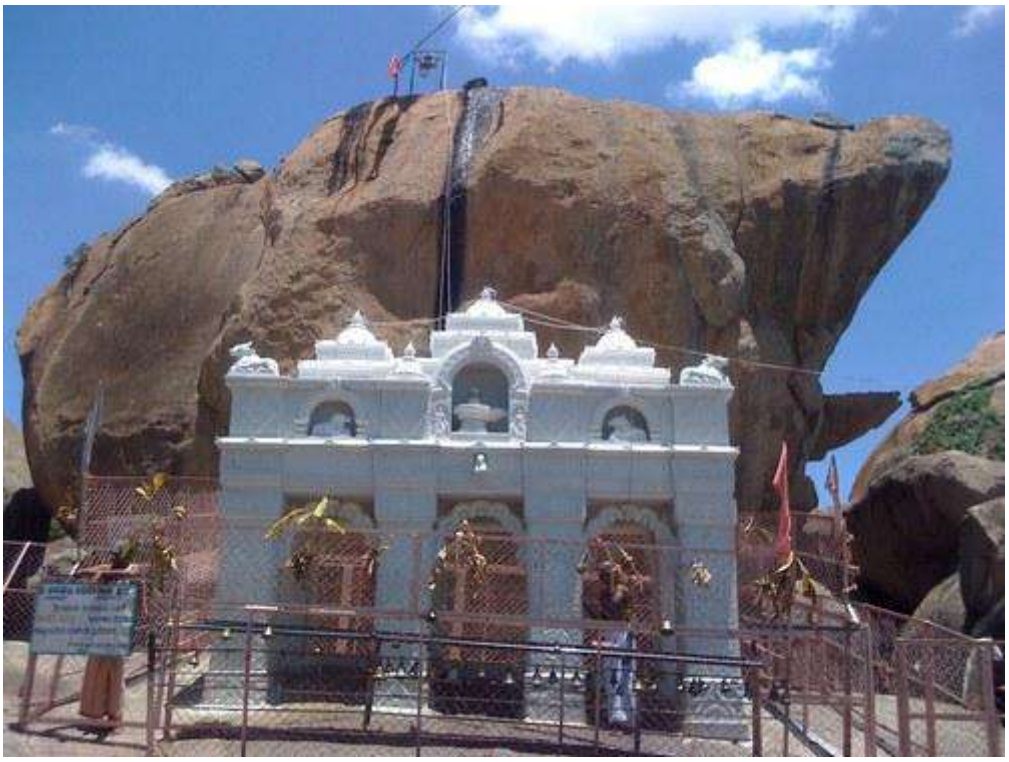
Sri Jenukallu Siddeshwara Swamy Temple, Yadhapura, Arsikere, Karnataka

Ref: Wikipedia



Jenukallu Siddeshwara Swamy Temple is a famous Hindu temple located in Yadapura village in Arasikere taluk of Hassan district , Karnataka . [1] [2] Yadapura is located 8 kilometres from Arasikere. [3] The temple is located on a hill and is dedicated to Lord Shiva.

The hill, which has 1101 steps, can be climbed from both sides, north and south. The feet of Siddeshwara Swamy can be seen on the hill. There is a tower at the top of this hill. There is a Gangamma pond nearby. There is a Basavanna temple at the bottom of the hill.

History

This region was once a forest. It is said that the place where the Siddhas attained enlightenment after many years of penance became Yadapura. According to a legend , once a monk was passing through this village when he came across a woman who was grieving the loss of her child. When he found out the reason for her child's death, he came to know about the health problems facing the villagers. To get rid of it, the monk performed penance on Siddheshwara and pleased Lord Siddheshwara (Shiva) with a honey stone and asked for a boon to get rid of the health problems in the village. Thus, people suffering from various diseases came to this place and got cured. [4]

It is said that Lord Jenukallu Siddeshwara Swamy, having placed only his two feet on the hill, arose in the form of a gentle Nandi lying in the middle of the town of Yadapura below.

Origin of the name

This place is known as the place of Lord Siddeshwara Swamy, as a beehive was built on a high hill near the shrine of Lord Siddeshwara . It is said that in this beehive, the deities in the form of bees reside. Lord Siddeshwara is also known by the names Ajjayya and Siddeshwara.

Devotees throng on full moon and new moon days

The temple is visited by a large number of devotees every month on the full moon and new moon days . [5] The famous Sri Jenukallu Siddeshwara Utsava, held in April/June every year is also visited by a large number of devotees.

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Ref: Google Gemini

The **Jenukal Sri Siddheshwara Swamy Temple** (also known as Jenukallu Betta) is a renowned spiritual and trekking destination located in the Hassan district of Karnataka. Dedicated to Lord Shiva, who is worshipped here as Siddheshwara Swamy or "Ajjaya," the temple is perched atop a hill offering panoramic views.

1. Location, Address, and Access

- **Address:** Yadapura, Arsikere Taluk, Hassan District, Karnataka - 573103.
- **Distance:** Approximately 6–8 km from Arsikere town.
- **Phone:** No official centralized landline is public, but the temple office can often be reached via the Hassan District Muzrai Department or local trust representatives.
- **How to Get There:**
    - **By Train:** Arsikere Junction is a major railway hub well-connected to Bengaluru, Hubballi, and Mangaluru.
    - **By Bus:** Frequent government and private buses run from Bengaluru and Hassan to Arsikere. From Arsikere, local autos or "Special Government Buses" (on Full/New Moon days) take you to the base at Yadapura.
    - **The Climb:** You must climb approximately **1,101 stone steps** to reach the hilltop temple.

.2. Greatness and Legends

- **The Name:** "Jenu" means honey and "Kal" means stone. The hill is famous for massive wild honeycombs on its cliffs. Legends say these bees are divine guardians of the deity.
- **The Boon-Giver:** Lord Siddheshwara is believed to be a "Siddha" (enlightened being) who fulfills the sincere wishes of devotees.

- **The Legend:** It is said that a great saint once meditated here and invoked Lord Shiva to save the local village from a severe health crisis. Shiva appeared as Siddheshwara and blessed the land.

3. Architecture and Deities

- **Primary Deity: Jenukal Siddheshwara Swamy** (Lord Shiva). At the hill's peak (Mullasthana), you can see the sacred "Pada" (footprints) of the Lord.
- **Sub-Deities:** * **Basavanna Temple:** Located at the foot of the hill. It is customary to seek "Appane" (divine permission/guidance) here using a flower-counting ritual before starting the climb.
    - **Goddess Gangamma:** Located near the *Gangama Kolave* (a sacred water source).
- **Architecture:** The temple follows a traditional Dravidian style but is primarily defined by its natural rock setting and the white-domed Gopura visible from miles away.

4. Rituals, Poojas, and Festivals

- **Daily Rituals:** Open daily from roughly **6:00 AM to 8:00 PM**. *Anna Prasadam* (free lunch) is served daily to all devotees.
- **Auspicious Days: Amavasya** (New Moon) and **Poornima** (Full Moon) are the most significant days, attracting thousands of pilgrims for night vigils and special Bhajans.
- **Annual Festival (Jathre):** Held every year in **April/May**. It features the *Rathotsava* (Chariot Festival), *Dugula*, and *Kenda Thulitha* (fire-walking ritual).
- **Charges:** General Darshan is free. Specific Sevas like *Archana*, *Abhisheka*, or *Utsava* range from **₹50 to ₹5,000+** depending on the complexity. (Note: It is best to verify exact current rates at the temple counter).

5. Facilities and Donations

- **Accommodation:** Basic guest houses (Yatri Nivas) are maintained by the temple trust. For more comfort, devotees usually stay in hotels in Arsikere town.
- **Donations:** Donations are accepted for the *Anna Dasoha* (feeding program) and temple maintenance.
    - *Bank Details:* While the temple has an official account, it is highly recommended to obtain the account number directly from the **Temple Executive Officer's office** on-site to ensure security.

6. Nearby Attractions and Hotels

- **Nearby Temples:**
    1. **Ishvara Temple (Arsikere):** A 13th-century Hoysala masterpiece with a unique star-shaped architecture.
    2. **Malekal Tirupathi:** Known as the "Tirupathi of Karnataka," featuring a hilltop Venkateshwara temple (~2 km from Arsikere).
    3. **Haranahalli Temples:** Historical Chennakeshava and Someshwara temples (~27 km away).

- **Budget Hotels (Arsikere):**
    - **Hotel Saroja Palace** (Near Railway Station)
    - **Mallige Residency**
    - **Chamundi Comforts**
    - **Reva Suites** (Slightly higher end, but reliable)

More info:

Here is an expanded look at the **Jenukal Sri Siddheshwara Swamy Temple**:

1. Legends and History

- **The Divine Bees:** The name "Jenukal" (Honey-Stone) is central to its lore. It is believed that the wild bees on the hill are not ordinary insects but **messengers or celestial beings** protecting the temple. Legend states that if any devotee approaches the shrine with an impure mind or ill intent, these bees swarm as a divine warning.
- **Healing Powers:** Local history speaks of a medieval saint who performed intense penance (*Tapasya*) on this hill to rid the surrounding villages of a devastating plague. Lord Shiva, pleased by his devotion, manifested as **Siddheshwara** (the Lord of Siddhas/Enlightened Ones) and promised that any devotee who climbs the hill with true faith would be cured of ailments.
- **Ajjaya's Presence:** Devotees affectionately call the deity **"Ajjaya"** (Grandfather), signifying a paternal, protective figure who oversees the welfare of the people in the Malnad and Maidan regions of Karnataka.

2. Architecture

- **The Hilltop Shrine (Mullasthana):** Unlike grand Hoysala temples nearby, this temple's beauty lies in its rugged, natural setting. The peak features a striking **white-domed Gopura** that serves as a landmark for miles.
- **Sacred Footprints:** The sanctum sanctorum at the top does not house a traditional large idol but rather the **"Pada" (Footprints)** of Siddheshwara Swamy, which are worshipped with great fervor.
- **The Steps:** The **1,101 steps** are carved directly into the rocky face of the hill. At various intervals, there are resting points and small carvings of Nandi (the bull) and other Shaivite symbols.
- **Gangama Kolave:** Near the peak is a natural spring or pond known as *Gangama Kolave*. Despite the elevation, this water source is said to never run dry and is considered as holy as the Ganges.

3. Rituals, Special Poojas, and Charges

- **Daily Schedule:** * **Abhisheka & Morning Pooja:** 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM.
    - **Mahamangalarathi:** 12:30 PM (Main ritual).
    - **Anna Prasadam:** 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM (Free meals for all).
- **Sevas and Charges:** (Note: Prices are subject to change by the temple trust, typically updated during the annual Jathre).

    - **Archana:** ~₹20 - ₹50.
    - **Karpura Mangalarathi:** ~₹50.
    - **Special Abhisheka:** ~₹250 - ₹500 (Depending on materials used).
    - **Utsava Seva:** ~₹1,000+ (Involves a small procession).
    - **Shashwatha Pooja (Permanent):** Often requires a one-time donation of ₹5,000 or more, where pooja is performed in the donor's name annually.

4. Famous Festivals

- **The Annual Jathre (April/May):** This is the grandest event, lasting several days.
    - **Rathotsava:** The pulling of the giant wooden chariot (Ratha) through Yadapura.
    - **Kenda Thulitha:** A spectacular fire-walking ritual where hundreds of devotees walk across glowing coals to prove their faith and fulfill vows.
    - **Dugula:** A unique tradition where devotees carry sacred items in a specific rhythmic dance.
- ***Amavasya (New Moon): Every month, the "Amavasya" night is treated like a festival. Thousands of pilgrims trek the hill at night, carrying torches or lanterns, creating a "garland of lights" visible from the plains.*

5. Facilities for Devotees

- **Basavanna Temple Ritual:** At the base, it is common to perform **"Appane"** (seeking permission). Devotees place flowers on the Basavanna idol; if a flower falls from the right side, it is seen as a "Yes" from the deity to proceed with their plans or prayers.
- **The Trek:** For those who cannot climb, local porters or basic "doli" services are sometimes available during peak festival days, though the climb is generally considered a mandatory part of the spiritual penance.

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Ref: AI Overview

The Sri Jenukallu Siddeshwara Swamy Temple is a renowned, historic Hindu temple dedicated to Lord Shiva, located on a hill (Betta) in Yadhapura, near Arsikere, Hassan district, Karnataka. Known as a powerful shrine, it is celebrated for its association with Siddhas who performed penance there. The temple is famous for "Jenu" (honey) found on the rocks and is often visited by devotees seeking to cure ailments and receive blessings.

Key Details About Jenukallu Siddeshwara Swamy:

- Location: Yadhapura, approximately 10-15 km from Arsikere, Hassan district, Karnataka.
- Deity: Lord Shiva, worshipped as Jenukallu Siddeshwara.
- Significance: It is believed that saints performed intense penance here. The site is known for having enormous, natural beehives, which are considered to be an abode of angels.

- Unique Features: The top of the hill features two distinct footprints, believed to be of the deity.
- Festivals & Timing: The temple is particularly significant during full moon days (Purnima) and Thursdays. The temple is open to visitors throughout the week.
- Accessibility: Accessible via road from Arsikere, this is a popular trekking spot and spiritual center

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Ref: myadhyatm.com

Sri Jenukallu Siddeshwara Swamy Devasthana

Shree Jenukal Siddeshwara Betta is located in Yadhapura, Near Arsikere, Hassan district -Karnataka. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. The Lord of lords is worshiped here as Jenukallu Siddeshwara, the one who grants all types of boons to his devotees. Here there is a hill (betta) called Shree Jenukal Siddeshwar betta or Jenukal betta.

This is the most powerful place for devotion.

The God Sri Jenukallu Siddeshwara swami's two footprints are seen at the top of the Jenukallu hill.

History

Jenukallu Temple is renowned for its holy significance. According to a legend, it is said that a saint who was once passing by the village saw a woman sobbing because her infant son had passed away. Inquiring about his condition, the saint performed a penance in order to eradicate the health problems that were faced by the villagers. He was able to please Jenukallu Siddesh (Lord Shiva) and asked him for a boon to eradicate the health issues. Thus, people suffering from different diseases throng to this place and get cured.

At the top of the mountain, there is an enormous bee-hive that is said to be the angels 'abode in the form of honeybees.

This hill contains many caves which have their history and devotees can see honey nest's on the big rocks. These bees are indicating God's sign they monitor every moment which takes place over here. Anything wrong in any of the process of publicity or privately in this area, people will be facing the sign of punishment in a fraction of a moment.

Every year very famous Sree Jenukal Siddeshwara Jaatre will be held in the month of April / June.Devotees take part in Rathothsava, Dugula, Arathi Pooje, and Kenda Thulitha.

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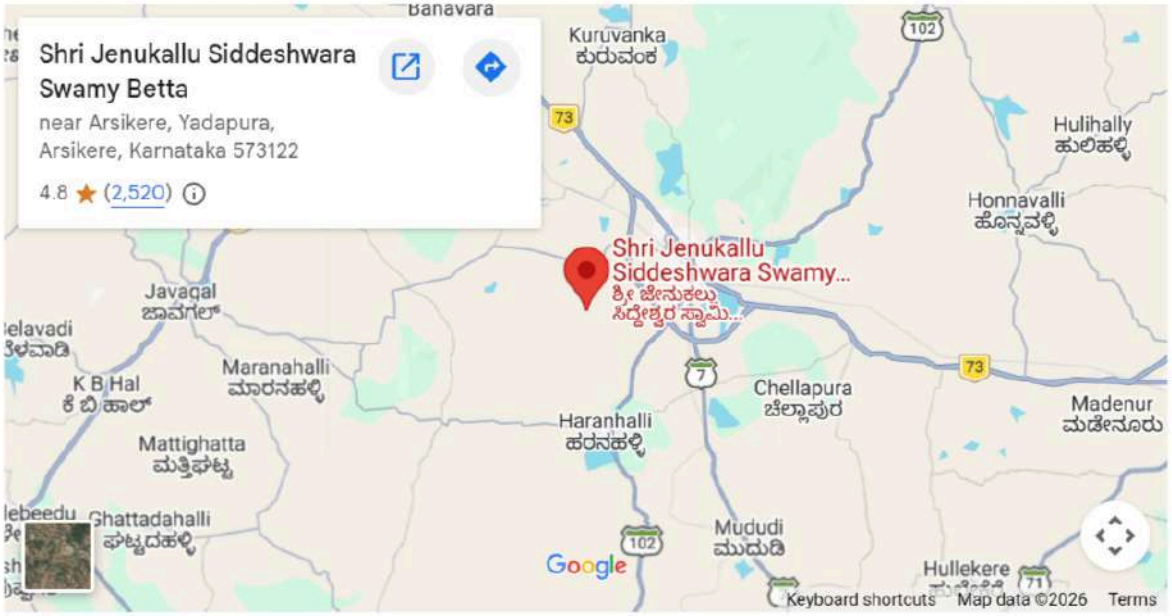
Ref: templeinkarnataka.com

Shri Jenukallu Siddeshwara Swamy Gudi Betta, Hassan, Karnataka

Address:

Address	Yadapur Rd, Arsikere, Karnataka 573103
Contact Number	080 2235 2828
Timings	Open 24 hours
Website	N/A
Room Booking	N/A

Map:



Temple Description

The Jenukallu Siddeshwara Temple in Yadapura, located in the Arsikere Taluk of Hassan district, Karnataka, is a revered pilgrimage site. Here's a detailed overview for those interested in visiting or learning more about this sacred location:

Jenukallu Siddeshwara Temple Overview

- **Location:** Yadapura, Arsikere Taluk, Hassan District, Karnataka, India
- **Deity:** Jenukallu Siddeshwara (also known as Ajjaya, Siddeshawara)
- **Significance:** The temple is renowned for its spiritual importance and the belief that sincere devotion and trust in the deity lead to immense blessings and fulfillment of wishes.

Key Features and Attractions

1. Temple Visit

- Crowds: The temple attracts a significant number of devotees, especially on Poornima (full moon day) and Amavasya (new moon day). These days are particularly auspicious, and many believe that visiting the temple on these days ensures that their wishes will be fulfilled.
- Darshan: Devotees come to seek the blessings of Jenukallu Siddeshwara, who is believed to bestow immense power and favor on his followers.

2. Climbing the Hill:

- **Steps:** The temple is situated on a hill with a challenging climb involving 1,101 steps. This ascent is considered an act of devotion and penance. The climb offers both spiritual and physical benefits and rewards climbers with a divine view and a closer connection to the deity.
- **Scenic Views:** The climb to the temple provides panoramic views of the surrounding landscape, adding to the spiritual experience.

Visiting Tips

- **Timing:** Try to visit during the Poornima or Amavasya for a more profound spiritual experience, but be prepared for large crowds on these days.
- **Footwear:** It's advisable to wear comfortable footwear as the climb involves numerous steps.
- **Preparation:** Carry water and some snacks for the climb, especially if you plan to visit during peak times or the summer months.

Nearby Attractions

While visiting the Jenukallu Siddeshwara Temple, you might also explore other nearby attractions in the Hassan district:

1. Hassan Town:

- **Highlights:** Known for its historic temples and ancient architecture, Hassan town offers several cultural and historical sites.

2. Shravanabelagola:

- **Distance:** About 50 km from Yadapura
- **Highlights:** Famous for the towering statue of Gomateshwara (Bahubali), this site is a major Jain pilgrimage center.

3. Halebidu and Belur:

- **Distance:** Approximately 30-40 km from Yadapura
- **Highlights:** These towns are renowned for their exquisite Hoysala architecture and ancient temples, including the Chennakesava Temple and Hoysaleswara Temple.

Visiting the Jenukallu Siddeshwara Temple provides a unique blend of physical challenge, spiritual enrichment, and scenic beauty, making it a memorable pilgrimage experience.

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Ref: [localguidesconnect.com]

Jenukallu Siddeshwara Temple

Jenukallu Siddeshwara Temple is located in Yadapura, Arsikere Taluk, Hassan district in the Indian state of Karnataka. The temple is very famous and every year the number of followers to this temple increases. The god Jenukallu Siddeshwara is very famous with the names Ajjaya, Siddeshawara, etc. The god blesses us with immense power if we trust him and follow him with huge belief. Every month Poornima or Amavasya, the temple will be too crowded and all our wishes will come true if we visit and get his darshan on this auspicious day. We can see Jenukal Siddeshwara Pada by climbing the hill which has 1101 steps.

Yadapura is 6 km from Arsikere, where you can reach this place via government buses or autos. During Poornima or Amavasya, special government buses are allocated for disciples who can make use of these services. The temple was shown in the TV9 Heegu Unte Show, too. The number of people follow Ajjaya and have been blessed and are humble to do seva of the god. Every year the very famous Sree Jenukal Siddeshwara Fair will be held in the month of April / June, where we will be excited after watching Rathothsava, Dugula, Arathi Pooje, and Kenda Thulitha. We get blessed and all our sins get cleared off watching and participating in the fair.

Every day there will be Anna Prasadam being offered to the disciples coming to the darshan of Ajjaya. And also a beautiful moral of not wasting the food is shown there. So please do not waste food and ask for food that you can eat. Also there are lot of sevas being offered to god, please ask the purohits and do the archana sevas. On the top of this hill you can see a Gopura which looks very good. In this you can see the footprints of Siddeshwara Swamy (mullasthana). There is also Gangama Kolave where one can visit and pray to god Gangama.

There is a Basavanna Temple down the hill where we can ask Appane (Any Queries), where with Flowers odd or even count, whether the work will be done or not is indicated. God is very powerful in letting our queries answer.

This hill contains many caves which have their own history and you can see a honey nest on the big rocks. These bees are thought to indicate God's sign that they monitor each and every moment which takes place here. Anything wrong in any of the processes publicly or privately in this area, you will face the sign of punishment in a fraction of a moment.

On Jan 29, 2019, an android app named Shree Jenukal was released to the play store to provide more updates about the temple.

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Videos

Jenukallu temple full video (38 min):

https://youtu.be/tPF5-ez0TJk?si=28OIuyROq8fKtzBW

Jenukallu Siddeshwara…Thursday…full moon day (3 min):

https://youtu.be/UDb4uHZkJvw?si=7VPbgKH_At9DZB_Y

Jenukallu Siddeshwara Swamy greatness (5 min):

https://youtu.be/4sXCG2Mr4xU?si=H8tluH9plb5yMTzt

Jenukallu Siddeshwara Swamy temple…here honeybees will punish if you do any wrong (15 min):

https://youtu.be/PAJhzF1oEgU?si=oQFfWi2MKDf6i55y

Jenukallu Siddeshwara Swamy temple (7 min):

https://youtu.be/jWYHegS6WhA?si=b5UG3A1S9iA9n5BV

Jenukallu Siddeshwara Swamy temple…full moon day (15 min):

https://youtu.be/v_4gJBxzciA?si=LZ7EHVzbaH-2o-R_

Jenukallu Siddeshwara Swamy temple…all your difficulties solved if you come here (15 min):

https://youtu.be/gO5i-Zu3MYk?si=dBW9pz-GugE90ujl

Jenukallu Siddeshwara Swamy temple..Full moon of 22 June 2024 (11 min):

https://youtu.be/qsII_Cb_8Xo?si=lfjSdUuUyYdlDwEF

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Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar

April 22, 2026

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About the Author

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar is a Mechanical Engineer with specialization in Cryogenics. He obtained his B. E. In Mechanical Engineering from Karnataka Regional Engg College, (Now NITK), Surathkal, India and M.Sc. in Cryogenics from the University of Southampton, U.K., and Ph.D. from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore.

He has worked in prestigious organizations such as BARC, Bombay and Centre for Advanced Technology (CAT), Indore,as Head of Cryogenics Dept and contributed to the design of cryogenic systems, including the Thermovac chamber for ISRO, Bangalore.

He was also a visiting fellow at Superconducting Super Collider Project, at Texas, USA.

He has also served as Professor, Head of Department, and Principal in reputed engineering institutions.

Dr. Thirumaleshwar has authored a large number of FREE ebooks on Engineering subjects such as Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, and Cryogenic Engineering, which are useful for students and teachers.

Driven by a deep interest in India's spiritual heritage, he has also authored many FREE ebooks on Temples, Saints, Gurus, and Vedic topics, with the aim of preserving and spreading this knowledge to future generations.

All his ebooks are available for free download at Archive.org.

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Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar
April 22, 2026

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